

Kenneth and Joanne Schoonover
6445 Castlefin Way
Alexandria, VA 22315

Virginia Air Board
c/o Terry Darton
Air Permit Manager
13901 Crown Court
Woodbridge, VA 22193

Dear Air Board:


We have not followed the conflict between the Air Board and the Mirant plant very closely but it seems to be getting more intense. The fact that it has persisted for so long is the hardest part of the issue to understand. The Virginia Air Board is using the environment as an excuse to block a perfectly sound proposal approved by the Department of Environmental Quality. Mirant meets or exceeds industry standards consistently so it is hard to imagine the reason for the hostility. It would appear that much work is being done to be able to announce a total failure to make any progress.

The amount of money wasted in litigation alone should be a cause for feelings of shame on the part of the Board. There has not been a single argument advanced that Mirant has failed to address. It is not as though they are asking for funds to perform their renovations. The \$30 million estimated cost to institute the stack merge will be paid by Mirant so there is no harm to city finances. The plan has the blessing of the Department of Environmental Quality so it must have shown itself to be valid. At every turn, Mirant seems to have taken the higher road while the Air Board has sunk lower and lower.

I feel there is a strong correlation between the quality of life and the availability of the energy that provides many of its comforts. As our population continues to grow, more people will require more energy to provide these comforts and enjoy that quality. The Potomac River Generating Station should be allowed to continue providing that energy as long as it continues to operate within the standards and guidelines set forth by established environmental agencies.

Your constituent,


Kenneth and Joanne Schoonover


Joanne Schoonover